

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
WATER QUALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, August 21, 2014
MAG Office Building
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Heather Finden for Randy Gottler, Phoenix, Chair	David McNeil, Tempe
Barbara Chappell, Avondale, Vice Chair	Reyes Medrano for Mark Berrelez, Tolleson
Roger Klingler for Arnold Coronado, Buckeye	Dale Bodiya for Kevin Chadwick, Maricopa County
# Anupa Jain, Chandler	Henry Day for John Boyer, Pinnacle West Capital/Arizona Public Service
Larry Dobrosky, El Mirage	# Jim Kudlinski, Salt River Project
* Mark Horn, Gilbert	* Summer Waters, University of Arizona Cooperative Extension
Javier Setovich, Glendale	Sherrie Logg for Michael Byrd, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
* Mark Seamans, Goodyear	# Carole Coe Klopatek, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
* Daniel Cleavenger, Mesa	* Glenn Stark, Gila River Indian Community
Michael Weber, Peoria	
Greg Homol, Queen Creek	
Christine Nunez for Terry Lowe, Surprise	
* Suzanne Grendahl, Scottsdale	

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

#Attended by telephone conference call.

OTHERS PRESENT

Julie Hoffman, Maricopa Association of Governments	Martin Stanek, EPCOR Water
Kara Johnson, Maricopa Association of Governments	Frederick H. Tack, GHD Inc.
Lindy Bauer, Maricopa Association of Governments	Bhaskar Kolluri, Liberty Utilities
Frank Metzler, EPCOR Water	Matthew Garlick, Liberty Utilities
Troy Day, EPCOR Water	Suzanne Ticknor, Central Arizona Project
Rebecca Stenholm, EPCOR Water	Steve Carlson, Liberty Utilities
Andy Brown, EPCOR Water	Mayor Adolfo Gamez, City of Tolleson
Jared Carr, EPCOR Water	Chris Hagen, City of Tolleson
Mike Worlton, EPCOR Water	George Good, City of Tolleson
	John Paul Lopez, City of Tolleson
	Jeff Grant, Daily News-Sun

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee (WQAC) was conducted on Thursday, August 21, 2014. Barbara Chappell, City of Avondale, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 3:30 p.m. Jim Kudlinski, Salt River Project; Anupa Jain, City of Chandler; and Carole Coe Klopatek, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, attended the meeting via telephone conference call.

Acting Chair Chappell introduced the City of Tolleson as a new member of the Committee. She stated that Mark Berrelez, City of Tolleson, has been appointed to the Committee. Reyes Medrano, City of Tolleson, is serving as proxy at the meeting today.

2. Call to the Audience

Acting Chair Chappell provided an opportunity for members of the public to address the Committee on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG or items on the agenda for discussion, but not for action. According to the MAG public comment process, members of the audience who wish to speak are requested to fill out comment cards, which are available on the tables adjacent to the doorways inside the meeting room. Citizens are asked not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. Acting Chair Chappell noted that no public comment cards had been received.

3. Approval of the May 21, 2014 Meeting Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the May 21, 2014 meeting. Michael Weber, City of Peoria, moved and Roger Klingler, City of Buckeye, seconded, and the motion to approve the May 21, 2014 meeting minutes carried unanimously.

4. Public Hearing - Draft MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility

Acting Chair Chappell opened the public hearing on the Draft MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility (WVRWRF). She indicated that the hearing would begin with a briefing provided by Frank Metzler, EPCOR Water. Following the briefing, hearing participants are invited to make comments for the public record. A court reporter is present to provide an official record of the hearing. Written comments are also welcome. For those wishing to speak on the draft amendment for the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility, please fill out a public hearing card which are available on the tables inside the meeting room.

Mr. Metzler provided an overview of the Draft MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility. He stated that he is an engineering project manager from EPCOR Water Arizona that is responsible for the planning, engineering, design, and construction of the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility. Mr. Metzler noted that the briefing will include the following: location; service area; scope of the facility; design of the facility; costs associated with construction and the associated wastewater collection system; project schedule; and the Russell Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (WRF).

Mr. Metzler stated that the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility service area is approximately 17 square miles. The service area is bound by Peoria Avenue on the north, Camelback Road on the south, Litchfield Road is the approximate eastern boundary, and Citrus Road on the west. Mr. Metzler indicated that the land primarily consists of agricultural property with some low density residential lands within the Glendale Municipal Planning Area and unincorporated Maricopa County. He noted that a lot of this area is currently served by the EPCOR White Tanks Water Treatment Plant. Mr. Metzler displayed a map of the proposed service area with colored areas that represent landowners who have already executed agreements with EPCOR requesting wastewater service at some point in the future. The colored areas of the map represent

approximately 3,600 acres which is composed of a mixture of residential, commercial, and industrial lands.

Mr. Metzler discussed that EPCOR Water Arizona will be the regulated water, wastewater, and recycled water service provider within the proposed service area. EPCOR Water also has a concurrent application with the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) to expand the Agua Fria Wastewater Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CC&N) or create a new wastewater CC&N. Mr. Metzler indicated that this will be determined based on how ongoing discussions with the ACC unfold. Mr. Metzler reviewed that agreements have been signed with 19 landowners representing approximately 3,600 acres of land. He indicated that the existing Russell Ranch WRF would be retired once the WVRWRF is operating and a connection is established.

Mr. Metzler presented the projected population and wastewater flows. He stated that EPCOR Water and Water Works Engineers prepared a Wastewater Master Plan in Fall 2013 that assessed the projected and proposed land uses in the service area. The projected build-out of the service area is over a 30 year time period. Mr. Metzler noted that population and development projections are not a science, but more of an art form. He stated that the projections are on the higher end of the continuum of aggressive versus slow. He indicated that the projections were based on the Conceptual Land Use Plan prepared by the Loop 303 Landowner Group several years ago. Mr. Metzler added that the Land Use Plan is very consistent with the long-range General Plan for the City of Glendale. He stated that the 2045 projections include the following: approximately 23,000 residents and approximately 7,000 dwelling units, which include both new and existing housing which may or may not be tied into the wastewater service system. The long-term projected build-out wastewater flow for the service area is approximately seven million gallons per day (mgd) with a one mgd margin of safety on the design of the facility.

Mr. Metzler reported the land uses and contributions of wastewater flows across differing sectors of land use. Approximately 40 percent of the area that would produce wastewater flows are classified as residential and approximately 43 percent would be a mixture of industrial and commercial land uses. The remainder is a mixture of schools, recreational facilities, and other land uses.

Mr. Metzler reviewed the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility. He indicated that the facility will be a conventional water reclamation facility with tertiary treatment. The initial capacity of the facility's first phase would be 150,000 gallons per day (gpd) in-ground concrete and steel plant. The design phase for the initial facility capacity is at 60 percent completion. The ultimate capacity of the WVRWRF is eight mgd which is expected over a 30 year planning period. The site of the facility is approximately 40 acres in size. Mr. Metzler stated that the WVRWRF will produce class A+ effluent, which is suitable for a wide range of uses, including groundwater recharge and reclaim uses for irrigation, common area irrigation, and other non-potable uses. He stated that the primary focus for reuse of the water is on-site recharge which will aid in the Luke Cone of Depression issues. In addition, the water would also be provided to users in the vicinity of the service area for non-potable uses which would reduce the demand on water resources. Mr. Metzler mentioned that EPCOR will investigate potentially teaming up with the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District (CAGRD) to create a long-term groundwater saving facility or recharge facility. EPCOR will also consider groundwater savings facility. In addition, EPCOR will explore the option of an Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (AZPDES) Permit in the event that flows exceed the ability for recharge and the demand for reclaimed water. Mr. Metzler indicated that EPCOR will coordinate with adjacent communities on these options. Biosolids will be dewatered and sent to the landfill.

Mr. Metzler discussed the construction of the WVRWRF. During construction, the facility will have full odor and noise control using best available demonstrated control technologies and other typical components that can be found in conventional wastewater treatment plants. Mr. Metzler indicated that the facility would have the following technologies: influent pump station; screen and grit removal; bioreactors; clarification; tertiary filtration; chlorination/dechlorination; sludge holding and dewatering; and on-site recharge basins with avian controls to address potential issues with bird strikes associated with Luke Air Force Base operations. He stated that EPCOR has been in close coordination with Luke Air Force Base. The Air Force Base has provided guidance and requirements for the design of the recharge basins which have been incorporated into the design of the facility. The site will enclose all nuisance causing components to ensure no impact to adjacent neighbors and residents.

Mr. Metzler reviewed the conceptual layout of the facility and how it will be scaled to accommodate growth in the service area. The slope in the area runs from northwest to southeast. Therefore, the facility is going to run from a north to south orientation. Mr. Metzler stated that the first phase of the facility will be the 150,000 gallon treatment train. He added that in the expansion to 500,000 treatment train, no equipment will need to be removed. EPCOR will add on to achieve the expansion to 500,000 gallon treatment capacity. As wastewater treatment needs in the area grow, the facility will expand from the east to the west. Mr. Metzler provided a 3D rendering of the facility. He stated that the initial recharge basins will be located in the southeast corner of the property. Ultimately, the recharge basins will completely surround the facility. Fencing will be placed around the treatment train and recharge basins.

Mr. Metzler reported the facility phasing. Using the growth projection in the Wastewater Master Plan, the first phase will consist of a treatment train of 150,000 gallons per day. Mr. Metzler stated that EPCOR intends to start construction on the WVRWRF next year and complete construction in approximately a one year window. The initial 150,000 gpd treatment train will cost approximately \$2.4 million. As growth creates additional capacity needs, the facility will be expanded. The next phase of expansion to a 500,000 gpd treatment train will cost approximately \$7.5 million. Mr. Metzler commented that additional treatment capacity can be added, in either: 500,000 gpd, one mgd, or any increment of 500,000 gpd. He discussed economy of scale in which costs for construction will be driven down as additional capacity is added. Mr. Metzler presented the collection system investment dollars that represent the long-range projected investment in the wastewater sewer system to deliver flows to the facility.

Mr. Metzler stated that EPCOR has received the Use Compatibility and Consistency Determination from Maricopa County Community Planning and Development Department for the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility. The Use Compatibility and Consistency Determination indicates that Maricopa County and Luke Air Force Base are in agreement on the proposed plans for siting the WVRWRF at this location. Mr. Metzler added that EPCOR is at 60 percent design for the water reclamation facility. In addition, EPCOR is at 30 percent design for the sewer lines that will feed flow from Russell Ranch and Granite Vista developments to the WVRWRF. Mr. Metzler stated that it is anticipated that the design for the sewer system and the WVRWRF will be completed by December 2014. He added that EPCOR intends to obtain the military compatibility permit from Maricopa County in January or February 2015. EPCOR intends to obtain the CC&N from the Corporation Commission in early 2015. EPCOR is working toward an Approval to Construct in early 2015 with construction starting April 2015. Mr. Metzler stated that EPCOR is pushing itself to make sure it meets the needs of the partners, developers, and residents in the area.

Mr. Metzler presented the permits and approvals required to start construction on the facility. He indicated that EPCOR is on various stages of completion for all of the permits and approvals.

Mr. Metzler reported on financing. The funding for the construction of the facility and the sewer system will be a combination of Contributions in Aid of Construction and Advances in Aid of Construction with repayment windows that are specified in agreements. Additionally, the funding is tied to the development process in that as final plat approvals and building permits are obtained, there are specific milestones and associated cash contributions flowing from the developers to EPCOR to pay for the infrastructure. Mr. Metzler stated that the 40 acre site for the WVRWRF will be conveyed to EPCOR Water from the Loop 303 Landowner Group at no cost to EPCOR or its customers. He added that EPCOR Water can infuse equity into the project as necessary.

Mr. Metzler discussed the Russell Ranch Water Reclamation Facility. The Russell Ranch WRF is a small package plant located just outside the outer boundary of the WVRWRF service area. The development at build-out will be approximately 450 houses. Right now the number is approximately 210 houses. Mr. Metzler stated that the Russell Ranch WRF is currently identified in the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan with an ultimate capacity of 400,000 gallons per day. There is an existing 198,000 gpd Aquifer Protection Permit (APP). The current permitted flow is 60,000 gpd, however the facility has a current inflow of 35,000 gpd. EPCOR is evaluating costs and options to add additional treatment to serve Russell Ranch and potentially the Granite Vista Phase One Development if necessary. The Granite Vista Phase One Development, which consists of approximately 380 homes, would be the first development that would require additional wastewater treatment capacity in this area. Mr. Metzler mentioned that if the Granite Vista project completes Phase One before the West Valley Regional WRF is online, the Russell Ranch WRF may be used in the interim as a treatment option. The Russell Ranch WRF is not intended to be a permanent solution. Ultimately this facility would be retired and flows sent to the West Valley Regional WRF.

Acting Chair Chappell invited public comment on the Draft 208 Plan Amendment for the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility. She indicated that a couple cards had been received.

Acting Chair Chappell recognized public comment from Matthew Garlick, Liberty Utilities. Mr. Garlick handed out a location map for the Liberty Utilities Recharge Project and a regional map for the Liberty Utilities Recharge Project. He stated that he is the director of operations for Liberty Utilities, which is located just south of the proposed West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility. He noted that there were statements made at the last meeting of the WQAC regarding Liberty Utilities and the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District looking to build a facility in a nearby area to conduct recharge. He indicated that he came to today's meeting to say those statements are grossly misrepresented by the applicant. Liberty Utilities has been working on this recharge facility for a long time. Liberty Utilities, Central Arizona Project (CAP), sister organization CAGR, have been working since 2010 on completing a water recharge facility in the West Valley within the Liberty Utilities certificated area. Mr. Garlick stated that Liberty Utilities and CAP signed a 100 year agreement in February 2014 to partner for the recharge of the Litchfield Park Service Company's effluent that cannot be sold to reuse customers.

Mr. Garlick indicated that Liberty Utilities and CAP have entered into a due diligence in which an optimum water site has been selected for water recharge. Mr. Garlick noted that the land was chosen through hydrologic testing at multiple sites within the service territory. Liberty Utilities has invested over \$300,000 in hydrologic environmental feasibility tests. Mr. Garlick mentioned that Liberty Utilities is currently in escrow for the project land that is currently within 4,000 feet from the proposed West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility. He reported that Liberty Utilities, CAP,

and the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) have initiated the permitting process for the recharge facility that intends to recharge approximately 5,000-6,000 acre feet of effluent annually and subsequently increase over the years. Liberty Utilities currently has a 5.1 mgd facility located three miles to the south that is permitted up to 8.2 mgd while also owning land on another MAG-approved plant that is permitted for 8.2 mgd. Mr. Garlick stated that the infrastructure is currently in place and ties within 1,000 feet of the recharge project. He added that the close proximity of the Liberty Utilities project and the proposed EPCOR facility is concerning with regard to recharge. Liberty Utilities and CAP co-own the facility and the effluent distribution line. Mr. Garlick discussed that he is unsure if everyone is aware of these issues. Mr. Garlick reported that the Liberty Utilities facility is more than proposed, that it is in escrow with money down on the land, and will hopefully be in the ground in 20 months. He asked that the Committee consider how the proposed draft amendment may affect Liberty Utilities and CAP and their long-term project.

Acting Chair Chappell recognized public comment from Suzanne Ticknor, Central Arizona Project. Ms. Ticknor stated that she is an attorney for CAP and is commenting on behalf of one of the CAP authorities: the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District. She indicated that CAGRD provides a mechanism for new developments in the CAP service area to demonstrate an assured water supply. The CAGRD is for subdivisions, water providers, and developers that do not have access to renewable supplies, such as CAP water or SRP surface supplies. They are still able, under state law, to develop and receive an assured water supply certificate and get plat approval if they can demonstrate they have access to groundwater and if they join CAGRD and agree to pay CAGRD assessments. She added that it is CAGRD's responsibility to acquire a renewable supply of water and recharge that water to keep the aquifer whole. Ms. Ticknor indicated that this is a way of sustainable development and a vitally important water management tool. She added that it is particularly important for the West Valley. Many West Valley providers and developers serve CAGRD member lands.

Ms. Ticknor commented that she was made aware today of the hearing. She thinks it is important for CAP to provide information on the Liberty Utilities partnership since the Committee is making planning decisions. She stated that the partnership is a culmination of over five years of work. She stated that in February 2014 the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD) Board, the CAP Board, and Liberty Utilities management executed an agreement. Ms. Ticknor stated that the agreement provides the lease by Liberty of the effluent produced at its Palm Valley Wastewater Reclamation Facility. This 100 year lease of the effluent provides CAGRD a water supply that can be used to replenish groundwater that is pumped by members. Ms. Ticknor reported that the agreement also provides for the joint development of an effluent recharge project to make use of the effluent that it is leasing for 100 years. She indicated that there have been two separate hydrologic feasibility studies to locate a site for a viable, cost effective effluent recharge project that was capable of storing a minimum of 5,000 acre feet of effluent per year. Ms. Ticknor noted that the CAWCD has moved forward; the agreement was executed. She added that approximately \$5 million has been deposited in escrow and that Liberty Utilities has committed over \$1 million of its funds to advance this project. Ms. Ticknor commented that they hope to close on escrow of the land in November 2014. She mentioned that the permitting process for the recharge project and underground storage facility have been initiated with the ADWR.

Ms. Ticknor stated that CAWCD is excited about this partnership with Liberty and hopes to see more of these partnerships in the future. Ms. Ticknor commented that this is an innovative partnership that is beneficial to CAWCD, the CAGRD members, Liberty Utilities, and to other municipal water providers in the area. She indicated that the partnership provides a mechanism for CAGRD to offset

groundwater pumping by members in the area of hydrologic impact. Ms. Ticknor reviewed that the members are located in the Liberty Utilities service area and that the groundwater pumping is going to be replenished in the same area. She noted many benefits of the partnership including: a long-term, 100 year, lease of effluent; access to critical infrastructure; necessary for replenishment obligations; and the hydrologic benefits of groundwater recharge for the entire area. Ms. Ticknor stated that other municipal providers in the area may be reliant on the groundwater for a source of water. She indicated that she wanted to make the Committee aware of the significant investment and planning that has gone into this relationship. Ms. Ticknor stated that they would be concerned about a location of another recharge facility 4,000 feet from their planned site. She noted that another facility in the area would be incompatible and inconsistent with the ability of the partnership to move forward with a recharge facility. Ms. Ticknor thanked the Committee.

Mr. McNeil asked when clarifying questions could be made. Acting Chair Chappell indicated that there are other public comments to be heard and that discussion will occur in the next agenda item, unless Mr. McNeil would like his questions to be part of the comments.

Carole Coe Klopatek, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, requested an opportunity to ask a clarifying question of the commentor. Acting Chair Chappell stated that she would like to get all the public comments, close the public hearing, and then have discussion. Clarification could be requested, but discussion will occur once the public hearing is closed.

Ms. Klopatek asked Ms. Ticknor how CAGRD would move forward with the Liberty Utilities recharge project if the proposed facility were approved. Ms. Ticknor replied that if the recharge component of the proposed EPCOR water reclamation facility were constructed, it would render the ability to construct the Liberty Utilities/CAP recharge project ineffective and impossible. She indicated that the Liberty Utilities partnership marries a water supply, effluent, with the necessary infrastructure to replenish it which is an underground storage facility. Ms. Ticknor stated that a nearby facility would render impossible the performance of the agreement. Ms. Klopatek inquired if it is possible to marry the two facilities. Ms. Ticknor replied that she is not in a position to answer the question.

Mr. McNeil asked if the concern is that if the proposed EPCOR facility is permitted from a recharge standpoint, that there would not be adequate capacity in the aquifer to accommodate the full permitted flows of both facilities. Ms. Ticknor responded yes. Mr. McNeil inquired if EPCOR has also submitted their recharge applications. Ms. Ticknor replied that she cannot speak to that. She clarified that Liberty Utilities and CAP have met with ADWR on several occasions and undergone pre-application meetings, however the permit application has not yet been filed.

Acting Chair Chappell recognized public comment from Troy Day, EPCOR Water. Mr. Day thanked the Committee for hearing his comments. He congratulated and thanked Liberty Utilities. Mr. Day indicated that EPCOR agrees the area being discussed is in a groundwater decline and in need of recharge. He noted that Glendale would like to keep the water in the area for this reason. Mr. Day stated that this is a very straightforward permitting issue by ADWR. He stated that this is not a MAG 208 issue. He indicated that EPCOR has had discussions with ADWR. Mr. Day responded to Ms. Klopatek's question stating that he thinks it is possible to marry the two facilities and that they do not need to be separate. He indicated that in EPCOR's discussions with ADWR there is sufficient separation. Mr. Day indicated that if there is not sufficient separation, the EPCOR facility would be permitted for less.

Acting Chair Chappell called for additional public comments. Hearing none, Acting Chair Chappell closed the public hearing and requested that the Court Reporter end the transcription.

5. Draft MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility

Acting Chair Chappell provided an opportunity for the Committee to discuss the Draft MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility.

Mr. Klingler asked about the amendment to the CC&N for the Agua Fria district. Mr. Metzler clarified that boundaries can be amended for an existing wastewater service area with the Arizona Corporation Commission or an application can be filed for a new wastewater service area. He stated that due to the proximity of Russell Ranch, a determination was made approximately seven months ago, when the CC&N was filed, to expand the Agua Fria wastewater service area. Mr. Metzler indicated that ongoing discussions are taking place with the ACC on options for consolidation and deconsolidation based on a request from the ACC. He noted that the resolution of the ongoing discussions may determine whether the Loop 303 service area may be a stand alone area, an expansion of the Agua Fria, or part of one large wastewater service area for areas where EPCOR provides service.

Mr. Klingler inquired about the areas included in the Agua Fria district. Mr. Day replied that the CC&N application is for a new service area and not for an expansion of the Agua Fria district. Mr. Klingler noted that the draft WVRWRF amendment indicates that an expansion would be made to the Agua Fria district. Mr. Klingler asked about Russell Ranch. Mr. Metzler replied that Russell Ranch is in the Agua Fria district.

Mr. Klingler asked about financing. Mr. Metzler responded that Contributions in Aid of Construction are not eligible for refund and Advances in Aid of Construction are eligible for refund. He stated that repayment windows are defined under ACC regulations. Mr. Klingler inquired if the repayments originate from wastewater rate payers. Mr. Metzler responded that the repayment is from the revenue base. Mr. Klingler asked if the revenue comes from rate payers within the wastewater district or from customers outside the district. Mr. Day replied that when the draft 208 amendment was submitted, discussions were still taking place with the ACC on whether this is an expansion of the Agua Fria district or the creation of a new service area. Subsequent to submitting the 208 amendment, the ACC has requested and the application be filed for a new service area and not an expansion of an existing district. Mr. Klingler inquired if this has been changed in the 208 amendment. Mr. Day responded no. Mr. Metzler stated that it is not relevant to the 208 amendment. Mr. Klingler commented that this information may be relevant in how it may impact member agencies.

Reyes Medrano, City of Tolleson, asked if specific discussions occurred with the surrounding communities regarding the eight mgd water reclamation facility. Mr. Metzler responded that EPCOR followed the MAG process to obtain letters of no objection from communities within a three mile radius of the proposed WVRWRF and service area. He stated that letters informed these communities of the proposed effort and requested letters of concurrence, no objection, or support. Mr. Metzler indicated that letters of no objection were received from all of the necessary entities. Mr. Medrano stated that he has spoken to most of the surrounding communities and the majority are not aware of the proposed eight mgd facility. He mentioned Maricopa County and City of Glendale as being sole supporters of the amendment. Mr. Metzler replied that Maricopa County and the City

of Glendale are the sponsors of the draft amendment for the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility due to the lands being under their jurisdiction. He indicated that he believes a copy of the draft 208 amendment was provided with the request for letters of no objection.

Mr. Medrano stated that the City of Tolleson and other communities he has spoken with were not surprised to see a MAG 208 amendment request. He added that Mr. Day has been with him on many occasions when they have approached almost every city in the room to discuss the possibility of sending flow to the City of Tolleson facility. One of the cities approached was El Mirage in combination with Luke Air Force Base. One of the concepts discussed was to bring in the 303 corridor. The only difference today between their proposal and the draft amendment is the eight mgd facility. He expressed concern that communities impacted by the plan were not made aware. Mr. Medrano commented that the proposed draft amendment is not comprehensive enough in that other options discussed in the West Valley were not considered. He stated that if the facility moves forward, it will impact the water master plans of the West Valley communities. Mr. Medrano mentioned the City of Tolleson's pursuit to fill its 9.4 mgd facility has yielded multiple options that are not mentioned. He stated that he was not unaware of the draft amendment until Monday morning. He stated nobody was surprised by the 208 amendment request. Based on previous discussion, they had thought flows would be coming to Tolleson. He stated that the draft amendment is not comprehensive which the Committee deserves.

Javier Setovich, City of Glendale, stated that the City of Glendale highly supports the Draft MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility. He indicated that one of the key elements to this concept for the City of Glendale is that physical water resources are kept in the planning area for Glendale. Mr. Setovich noted that Glendale would not support a concept in which the water resources would be taken out of Glendale.

Mr. Setovich asked Liberty Utilities and CAP how they determined that the proposed facility would render their project impossible. Ms. Ticknor replied that the partnership has two components: water supply and infrastructure. She indicated that with the infrastructure component a site needs to be selected and meet a number of criteria; one criteria being that the site would be capable of being permitted for recharge of a minimum of 5,000 acre feet of effluent per year. Ms. Ticknor noted that these criteria for selecting the site were based on the existing groundwater table, pumping, modeling, among many other conditions. She discussed that the Department of Water Resources includes operational alert levels within permits stating that operations cease if the groundwater table rises above a certain level. Ms. Ticknor mentioned mounding that occurs with recharge. She stated that the two recharge facilities cannot exist together due to the close proximity. Ms. Ticknor stated that when the ADWR reviews applications for recharge permits, the Department assesses other permitted recharge facilities in the area. A recharge permit gives rights to storage capacity within the aquifer.

Mr. Setovich inquired if ADWR has reviewed both facilities and made an assessment. Mr. Garlick indicated that an assessment could be completed by ADWR. He stated that he has been working on this project since 2008 and trying to meet the Fourth Management Plan which is to deliver the water as close as possible to the service area. Mr. Garlick discussed that this project would be interconnected to facilities that have already been approved through the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment Process. He noted that the two Liberty Utilities facilities have been approved and include additional capacity if needed, as well as lines going toward the service area. Mr. Garlick indicated that the 16.4 mgd of effluent, if not used by the community, could become a disposal issue. He stated that the partnership is the first of its kind in Arizona; it is a private utility with a long-term public-private partnership. Mr. Garlick mentioned that the project will be going

to the ACC to discuss final agreements. He discussed that the system in which the water is put in on the private company's behalf and the effluent is returned, which completes the cycle. Mr. Garlick stated that the West Valley has water issues. Liberty Utilities has spent time and approximately \$70,000 on modeling for this project. Mr. Garlick mentioned the possibility of room; however, discussion would have to take place to determine opportunities. Mr. Garlick commented that he wanted to make the Committee aware of the close proximity of the two sites.

Ms. Klopatek asked EPCOR if they were aware of the Liberty Utilities project. Mr. Metzler indicated that Central Arizona Project and Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District approached EPCOR to discuss future plans for effluent in Fall 2013. He stated that EPCOR was open and forthright about plans for the project, the location, the intended amount of water the facility would collect, and options for potential recharge or potable water use. Ms. Klopatek inquired if CAGRD was provided the draft proposed amendment materials. Mr. Metzler replied that a map was displayed of the proposed service area and facility location. He stated that CAGRD indicated that they were in discussion with Liberty Utilities on a recharge facility. Mr. Metzler stated that CAGRD did not disclose a location for a recharge facility. Mr. Metzler commented that EPCOR had multiple discussions with CAGRD on the proposed facility, as well as, discussions on the feasibility of entering into an agreement with CAGRD, similar to Liberty Utilities, to perform groundwater recharge in that area. Ms. Klopatek asked if the draft amendment materials or presentations given at the May meeting or this meeting were provided to CAGRD. Mr. Metzler replied that similar information was provided to CAGRD. He could go back and check to see specifically what was provided. He mentioned that EPCOR had approached CAGRD about recharge. CAGRD had disclosed that discussions were occurring with Liberty Utilities, but a location of the Liberty Utilities facility was not disclosed. Mr. Metzler stated that a groundwater consultant was hired to perform modeling on the capacity of the aquifer within the vicinity of the WVRWRF that included assumptions for Liberty Utilities recharge. He indicated that the consultant results indicated that there is enough capacity in the aquifer for recharge from both the proposed EPCOR facility, as well as Liberty Utilities facility. Mr. Metzler stated that the proposed West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility would not preclude Liberty Utilities and CAGRD from performing recharge operations near the facility.

Mr. McNeil commented that the concerns appear to be over space in the aquifer and about the inability of both facilities to recharge into the aquifer. He indicated that he believes the recharge process is similar to the surface water rights allocation process which operates on a first come, first serve basis. Mr. McNeil discussed that when ADWR runs the hydrologic model to evaluate capacity in the aquifer, applicants can then reserve space in the aquifer on a first come, first serve basis. He noted that with regard to EPCOR and Liberty Utilities facilities, these decisions are under the purview of ADWR who allocates aquifer space instead of the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee. Mr. McNeil mentioned that it is not the purview of the Committee to determine which facility was first and that this is a matter for ADWR.

Larry Dobrosky, City of El Mirage, stated that it is exciting that entities are discussing the importance of recharge in the West Valley. He noted that recently the West Valley communities have energized the West Valley Central Arizona Project Subcontractors (WESTCAPS) which looks at the West Valley region. Mr. Dobrosky noted that WESTCAPS is about to undergo a basin study for approximately \$1.6 million. He added that WESTCAPS is interested in systematically designing for water and wastewater resource solutions in the West Valley region. Mr. Dobrosky indicated that WESTCAPS has developed a strategic plan that has been supported by the Mayors of West Valley communities. He indicated that there is a disconnect between the regional solution of WESTCAPS

and entities out on their own doing separate things. Mr. Dobrosky noted that they should be brought forward as part of the regional planning process being conducted by WESTCAPS. He indicated that it is not effective to have multiple local solutions being pursued when the WESTCAPS exists to promote regional solutions by working together. It sounds like there are entities unaware or who have been unable to interact with EPCOR, including Tolleson, Liberty Utilities, and WESTCAPS. Mr. Dobrosky recognized the investment in the project, however he commented that it may be premature. Mr. Metzler replied that he and Jake Lenderking, who is the Water Resources Planner for EPCOR Water, can give Mr. Dobrosky a call to discuss the planning process and WESTCAPS. Mr. Metzler stated that EPCOR Water is pro-recharge and creating sustainable solutions for water resources in the West Valley. He would be happy to speak with Mr. Dobrosky to overcome any concerns regarding regional solutions for the West Valley. Mr. Dobrosky indicated that a significant amount of resources are going into the WESTCAPS basin study and does not believe this project is even included. He commented that the amendment may be premature.

Mr. Setovich responded that the draft amendment impacts the City of Glendale primarily and that the facility supports the growth that will occur in that area. He stated that he was concerned about a comment from Tolleson. Mr. Setovich indicated that he was very involved in ensuring neighboring communities were contacted and was part of the group involved in resolving issues. He commented that the draft amendment will be beneficial for both Glendale and the surrounding communities. Mr. Setovich noted that there are valid points made with regard to the recharge issue. He stated that it is important that those water resources be kept in Glendale and that the City will not support the water leaving Glendale. Mr. Setovich thanked Mr. McNeil for his comments that these issues are not under the purview of the MAG 208 process and should be addressed at ADWR. He mentioned that studies have suggested that both facilities could recharge and some studies say they cannot. These studies and information from ADWR would be helpful in making decisions. However, Mr. Setovich stated that other wastewater options would delay plans for the Glendale community and Glendale hopes to find a solution quickly.

Mr. Medrano stated that he did not mean to imply in his initial comments that resources be taken out of Glendale. He noted that EPCOR is one of the options, however there are multiple options that can be explored. Mr. Medrano indicated that Tolleson does not need recharge. Water for Tolleson is from Salt River Project and the effluent goes to the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station. Mr. Medrano noted that Tolleson has a good relationship with Pinnacle West Capital who could help create a systematic regional solution for a West Valley common vision.

Mr. Metzler reported that he can provide the City of Tolleson with the documentation that was provided to the surrounding communities on the draft amendment. He stated that EPCOR performed all of the necessary coordination for the draft amendment and received the letters of no objection. Mr. Medrano noted that he spoke with City Managers.

Mr. Klingler inquired about the status of the Russell Ranch facility and the ability to use it as an interim solution. Mr. Metzler responded that there is no emergency at the Russell Ranch facility. Mr. Setovich added that the Loop 303 corridor may develop quickly and the City of Glendale would like to be ahead of the growth for water and wastewater infrastructure. He indicated that there is no emergency with regard to residential growth, however commercial growth is anyone's guess.

Mr. Metzler stated that when EPCOR Water became aware of a Liberty Utilities and CAGRDR recharge facility that would be somewhere in the vicinity of the proposed WVRWRF, EPCOR Water requested that CAGRDR provide the modeling and hydrologic analysis to determine if the EPCOR

Water facility would impact to the CAGR and Liberty Utilities recharge facility. He noted that CAGR and Liberty Utilities were unwilling to provide the requested items throughout the process.

Mr. Klingler asked if recharge was not a possibility, how would the WVRWF dispose of effluent. Mr. Metzler replied that another permissible effluent disposal option would be chosen that best fits the long-term water resources plans for the City of Glendale.

Ms. Klopatek commented that it is part of the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee's due diligence to look at effluent disposal methods with regard to a 208 amendment. She inquired what effluent disposal method would be chosen if recharge cannot be pursued. Mr. Metzler replied that as a former recharge coordinator for ADWR he is convinced that there is a place for this water in the aquifer. It would be in the immediate vicinity of the WVRWF. He indicated that if recharge had to occur at a farther distance from the CAGR and Liberty Utilities project to avoid mounding, EPCOR would do it. Ms. Klopatek asked if a written statement of agreement with CAGR and Liberty Utilities could be included with the amendment as it moved forward. Mr. Metzler responded that questions regarding capacity in the aquifer, underground storage facility permits, and recharge are all under the purview of the Arizona Department of Water Resources. Mr. Klopatek replied that the 2002 MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan indicates that the effluent disposal methods are within the Committee's purview.

Mr. Setovich clarified that alternative options were taken into consideration by Glendale, however the proposed facility is the best option for Glendale. He commented that the issue is if there is recharge capacity in the area. Mr. Setovich mentioned that there are varying opinions on if these issues fall under the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee purview. He stated that Glendale has looked at other options and that this proposed facility is the Council approved, preferred option. Mr. Setovich noted that there are concerns about the aquifer capacity in the area. He mentioned that these issues were discussed, however Maricopa County and the City of Glendale supported the draft amendment under the assumption that the issues would be addressed through the permit process that assesses all recharge needs in the area. Mr. Setovich reiterated that the City of Glendale will not entertain any other options other than having service provided by EPCOR Water.

Mr. McNeil stated that he has been on the Committee for 15 years and there have been instances when the Committee has debated the approval of amendments until permits are approved. The Committee has concluded in the past that it would be unreasonable for a facility to not be approved until all permits are issued. Mr. McNeil noted that the Committee has approved amendments based on the understanding that permit approvals are necessary for construction.

Mr. McNeil inquired about comments made that some neighboring communities who provided letters of no objection may not be in support of the amendment and that the proposed facility interferes with wastewater plans of neighboring communities. Acting Chair Chappell clarified that the comments were some neighboring communities who provided letters of no objection were not aware of the eight mgd facility. Mr. Medrano stated that communities were not surprised by the draft 208 amendment, but that it included an eight mgd facility. He indicated that he cannot answer the question since information on the amendment has not been properly discussed by all of the communities impacted. Mr. McNeil clarified that letters of no objection were received by all surrounding communities. He noted that he is hearing there is a disconnect between City Managers and the individuals provided the letters of no objection. Mr. Metzler reviewed that letters of support are provided in the proposed draft amendment materials. Mr. Reyes indicated that not all of the letters are letters of support. Acting Chair Chappell indicated that letters of support have been provided by Maricopa County and the City of Glendale, the other letters provided are letters of no

objection. Mr. Setovich noted that the letters received meet the requirements of the MAG 208 process. Mr. Medrano indicated that political ramifications also need to be considered.

Mr. Dobrosky stated that he appreciates Mr. Setovich's role in planning for the future of Glendale. He commented that his concern is that Glendale is an active member of WESTCAPS, however they are seeking a local solution which deviates from the WESTCAPS regional goal. Mr. Dobrosky indicated that perhaps the proposed facility is the best answer for the West Valley, however it may be premature since it has not looked at the region as a whole. He discussed that the best solution would be to rule out all other options to arrive at the best option for the region and not just Glendale.

Christine Nunez, City of Surprise, discussed the EPCOR White Tanks facility that received support from WESTCAPS. She stated that similarly the region needs to discuss this amendment from a regional perspective. Ms. Nunez commented that perhaps other facilities have unused capacities of recharge or treatment that could be utilized. She mentioned that the proposed facility could be the best regional option or perhaps Liberty Utilities and EPCOR share the recharge capacity in the aquifer, however it is important that the details are discussed and planned under the WESTCAPS planning process.

Mr. Setovich agreed that there is a valid point in that recharge needs to be discussed further. However, Glendale still supports the amendment as the best option. Mr. Setovich indicated that additional dialogue on recharge may be needed outside of the MAG WQAC and brought back to MAG after more discussion.

Mr. Klingler stated that the Water Quality Advisory Committee makes recommendations to the MAG Management Committee that goes on to the MAG Regional Council. There are concerns regarding this amendment. He commented that there is no emergency for the draft amendment and the need for further discussion on some of these issues has been mentioned. He noted that one concern is the clarity of a new CC&N district. Mr. Klingler commented that perhaps the draft amendment needs to be amended. He stated that some elements do not seem to be settled yet. Mr. Klingler inquired about having this amendment undergo further dialogue. Acting Chair Chappell stated that the draft amendment item can be tabled pending further discussion.

Mr. McNeil asked about what discussion needs to take place before the item is brought back to the Committee. Mr. Setovich requested that the motion include further discussion solely on the recharge component and that a timetable be included on when the Committee would hear the amendment.

Mr. Klingler made a motion to table the Draft MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility. Ms. Klopatek seconded the motion. Mr. Setovich requested the motion be amended to include specific discussion and a time frame. The motion was not amended. The motion to table the Draft MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility passed with Mr. Weber; Mr. Setovich; Dale Bodiya, Maricopa County Environmental Services Department; Heather Finden, City of Phoenix; Mr. McNeil; and Acting Chair Chappell voting no.

6. Call for Future Agenda Items

Acting Chair Chappell asked the Committee for suggestions on future agenda items. Ms. Klopatek inquired about updating the 2002 MAG Water Quality Management Plan. Julie Hoffman, Maricopa Association of Governments, stated that at the May 21, 2014 Committee meeting, the Water Quality Advisory Committee conducted a public hearing on the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan

Point Source Update and recommended approval to the MAG Management Committee. She noted that the MAG Regional Council approved the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Point Source Update in June 2014. Ms. Hoffman indicated that the update was transmitted to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality in August 2014. Ms. Klopatek stated that only a portion of the MAG Water Quality Management Plan was updated. Ms. Hoffman indicated that the MAG Water Quality Management Plan could be discussed at a future meeting.

Mr. McNeil asked for clarification of when EPCOR would return to the Committee. Mr. Medrano inquired if the draft amendment be placed as an agenda item for the next meeting. Mr. Setovich inquired about what the Committee would discuss with regard to the Draft MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility. Ms. Hoffman replied that based on the public hearing, a response to comments will be prepared. The response to comments would then be provided to the Committee for its review. Ms. Hoffman stated that hopefully the parties will have an opportunity to get together before the amendment is brought back to the Committee. Mr. Setovich suggested a future meeting date within a month.

Acting Chair Chappell stated that a future agenda item will include the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility 208 Plan Amendment, which would include an update on any discussions that have occurred. Mr. Metzler commented that EPCOR Water would be happy to reach out to any community that has concerns. He indicated that it would be helpful to understand what concerns need to be addressed for an approval of the draft amendment. Acting Chair Chappell responded that there is a public record of the comments and concerns expressed during the public hearing. A response to those comments would be the scope for the next meeting.

7. Comments from the Committee

Acting Chair Chappell invited comments from the Committee members. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:10 p.m.